

November 1, 2008

Dear Long Term Care Provider,

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to be a part of an important alerting and notification system called the California Health Alert Network (CAHAN). CAHAN is the State of California's official system that facilitates alerting, collaboration, emergency planning, and response communication among health care providers; federal, state, and local health departments; and other public health emergency partners.

When you enroll in CAHAN, you will be able to receive and confirm CAHAN alerts in minutes from state and local government entities during emergencies, urgent events, and disasters. CAHAN end-users can select the way they receive alerts—via alpha-numeric pager, email, fax, and cellular and landline phones, on a 24/7/365 basis. In addition to alert notifications, CAHAN users also have access to a central collaborative work environment for health and medical emergency partners to securely share and store confidential and sensitive information. Currently, over 15,000 participants from many public and private organizations are enrolled in CAHAN.

The California Department of Public Health, Emergency Preparedness Office, which administers CAHAN, provides CAHAN training workshops throughout the state. Participants of these workshops will learn how to receive and confirm an alert and use CAHAN to enhance statewide communications among public health emergency partners. Workshops will begin in January 2009 and will be offered throughout the state on a regional basis through October 2009. Please see the enclosed draft training schedule for the dates in your area.

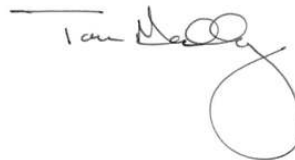
To find out more about CAHAN enrollment and how to register for the upcoming training workshops, please email CAHANInfo@cdph.ca.gov.

Please consider participating in this very valuable alert and notification system. Your involvement will assist with public preparedness and response for the people under your care by ensuring immediate communications between public and private health partners.

Sincerely,



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Enc (1): Jan. 2009 – Oct. 2009 CAHAN Training Schedule